



**AMERICAN  
LEGION**  
**JOHN E. JACOBS LEGION POST 68 LELAND**  
**MEDIA RELEASE**

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**LEGION POST 68 DONATES TO 2025 VETERANS DAY PARADE**

On November 11, 2017, Wilmington held the first of its kind Veterans Day parade in downtown Wilmington. Sponsored and organized by the nonprofit Southeast North Carolina (SENC) Veterans Day Parade, the event honors the sacrifices made by veterans and active-duty service members in the region. The parade provides a moment of public recognition and connection for veterans. For families, it offers inspiration and appreciation. For the greater Wilmington community, it reinforces the values of service, sacrifice, and remembrance.

Since 2017, the parade has grown exponentially to now include not only veterans, veteran groups, veteran support groups, high school marching bands, ROTC units, and first responders, but also representatives from all branches of the military services. As a charitable organization, the SENC Veterans Day Parade relies on donations, fundraisers, and grants to carry out its work in the community. This includes not only organizing and hosting the parade, but also awarding scholarships to children of veterans, providing emergency financial assistance to veterans in need, supporting mental health and wellness programs, and other initiatives.

Since the parade's inception, the John E. Jacobs American Legion Post 68 Leland has been an enthusiastic parade participant and ardent supporter. Recognizing the importance of donations to support the SENC Veterans Day Parade's ambitious plans, the Post recently donated \$500 to the organization. On hand at the presentation on Saturday, August 9, 2025, were Post 68 members Bea Frost, Commander; Joe Frost, Financial Officer; Evan Jones, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander; Lane Adrian, Veterans Service Officer; Eric Mens, Public Affairs; John Hacker, Member-at-Large; Bob Northrup, Post Color Guard; and Tom Powers. Jim Verdon, Vice Chair for the SENC Veterans Parade, accepted the donation on behalf of the organization's Board of Directors and presented a framed Certificate of Appreciation to Commander Frost.

This year's event will be at 11 a.m. Saturday, November 8, 2025, in downtown Wilmington, NC. Beginning at 11 a.m. on Third Street, the parade will travel from Harnett Street to Market Street. The route runs through the heart of downtown, offering great viewing areas along N. 3rd St. and especially along the sidewalks near Market St., where the parade concludes. To learn more about the SENC Veterans Day Parade or how you can donate, support, or volunteer, visit <https://www.sencveteransparade.com/veterans-parade>.

The John E. Jacobs American Legion Post 68 meets every third Thursday of each month at 6:00 p.m. in the Banquet Room of Blossoms Restaurant in Magnolia Greens, Leland (1800 Tommy Jacobs Drive). Meetings are preceded by dinner at 4:30 p.m. in the restaurant for those who wish to join in. After the meeting, attendees typically adjourn to the restaurant bar for a social hour. All veterans and active-duty service members in the Leland area are invited to attend.

The next Post meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 21, at 6 p.m. A representative from the Wilmington Chapter of Sleep in Heavenly Peace (SHP), the leading nonprofit dedicated to building and providing beds to children in need, will provide attendees with an overview of the nonprofit organization, its work in the greater Wilmington area, and the needs that the local community can help fulfill. At that time, the Post will collect donations of new twin bedding items including sheets, blankets, and pillowcases. Donations can be dropped off at the Banquet Room adjacent to the Blossoms Restaurant before the meeting.

Visit Post 68's website at: <https://NCPost68.org> for a calendar of events and other information.

Photo 1 Donation to SENC Veterans Day Parade — L-R: John Verdon, Vice Chair, SENC Veterans Parade; Evan Jones, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander; Bob Northrup, Color Guard; Bea Frost, Commander; Lane Adrian, Veterans Service Officer; Tom Powers, Member; and John Hacker, Member-at-Large. Not pictured are Joe Frost, Financial Officer, and Eric Mens, Public Affairs.



Photo 2 Post 68 Acceptance of SENC Veterans Day Parade Certificate of Appreciation— L-R: Evan Jones, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander; Bob Northrup, Color Guard; Bea Frost, Commander; Lane Adrian, Veterans Service Officer; Tom Powers, Member; and John Hacker, Member-at-Large.

